

to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; that the only other amendments in order be the following: the Kyl amendment regarding the nomination and confirmation of U.S. attorneys; the Sessions amendment regarding appropriate qualifications for interim U.S. attorneys; that debate on each amendment be limited to 3 hours equally divided and controlled in the usual form; that the amendments have to be offered and debated during Monday's session, except as noted below; that on Tuesday, the Senate resume consideration of the bill immediately after the opening proceedings and there be 90 minutes of additional debate time on the bill and the amendments are to run concurrently with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees; that upon the use or yielding back of time, but not later than 11:30 a.m., without further intervening action or debate, the Senate proceed to vote in relation to the Kyl amendment, to be followed by a vote in relation to the Sessions amendment; that upon disposition of the amendments, the bill be read a third time, and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bill, as amended; that the text of these amendments be printed in the RECORD once this consent is granted.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendments (Nos. 459 and 460) are as follows:

#### AMENDMENT NO. 459

(Purpose: To ensure that United States attorneys are promptly nominated by the President, and are appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate)

On page 2, strike line 1 and all that follows and insert the following:

#### SEC. 2. PROMPT NOMINATION AND CONFIRMATION OF UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS.

Section 541 of title 28, United States Code is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b)(1) Not later than 120 days after the date on which a vacancy occurs in the office of United States attorney for a judicial district, the President shall submit an appointment for that office to the Senate.

“(2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), not later than 120 days after the date of the submission of an appointment under paragraph (1), the Senate shall vote on that appointment.

“(3) If the President fails to comply with paragraph (1) with regard to the submission of any appointment for the office of United States attorney, paragraph (2) of this subsection shall have no force or effect with regard to any appointment to the office of United States attorney during the remainder of the term of office of that President.”.

#### SEC. 3. REPEAL OF INTERIM APPOINTMENT AUTHORITY.

Section 546 of title 28, United States Code, is repealed.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 460

(Purpose: To require appropriate qualifications for interim United States attorneys)

On page 2, line 23, strike the quotation marks and the second period and insert the following:

“(e)(1) A district court appointing a United States attorney under subsection (d) shall not appoint a candidate—

“(A) unless that candidate is an employee of the Department of Justice or is a Federal law enforcement officer (as that term is defined in section 115 of title 18); or

“(B) if the court learns that candidate is under investigation or has been sanctioned by the Department of Justice or another Federal agency.

“(2) Not less than 7 days before making an appointment under subsection (d), a district court shall confidentially inform the Attorney General of identity of the candidate for that appointment.”.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, in view of the agreement just entered, I now ask unanimous consent that the cloture motion be withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, let me say these few minutes Senator McConnell and I have spent on the floor have been just a brief interlude, but getting to this point has taken hours and hours of people's time. I think we are at a point now where we have had a good debate over the last several days and we will have one today. We are moving into another contentious issue, which will be resolved Tuesday morning. So I think we have made great progress. I think it speaks well of the Senate, in spite of the closeness of the margin between Democrats and Republicans, that we are able to get things done. Sometimes it is a slow process in getting things done, but I am confident this is good for the body and the country.

Mr. President, also it is important that everyone be notified—we were scheduled to have a vote Monday at 5:00 or 5:30—that it is not necessary. We have a lot of work going on. We have the debate on the budget that will take some time. We are going to complete this U.S. attorneys issue and we are going to complete three judges today. So in short, there is no need to have a judge's vote, though we have two remaining on the calendar, and I think we will accomplish what we need to do. So there will be no votes on Monday night.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, let me echo the remarks of the majority leader with regard to the painstaking process he and I have been through over the last day and a half trying to reach an agreement on the Iraq debate. I think it is an agreement that is satisfactory to both sides. It gives Senators an opportunity to express themselves on what is clearly, arguably, the most important issue on the minds of the American people at this particular juncture in our history, and we look forward to the debate starting shortly. Senator INHOFE will be here to control the time on our side, so let the debate begin.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the final 20 min-

utes of the debate relating to matters regarding the Iraq resolutions, the first 10 minutes of the 20 minutes be for Senator McCONNELL, the second 10 minutes right before the vote be under my control.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### UNITES STATES POLICY IN IRAQ RESOLUTION OF 2007—S. J. RES. 9

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT NO ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN TO UNDERMINE THE SAFETY OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OR IMPACT THEIR ABILITY TO COMPLETE THEIR ASSIGNED OR FUTURE MISSIONS.—S. RES. 107

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT NO FUNDS SHOULD BE CUT OFF OR REDUCED FOR AMERICAN TROOPS IN THE FIELD WHICH WOULD RESULT IN UNDERMINING THEIR SAFETY OR THEIR ABILITY TO COMPLETE THEIR ASSIGNED MISSIONS.—S. CON. RES. 20

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be 4 hours of debate equally divided between the parties.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, it is my understanding the debate will start with our side. I encourage all Members who wish to be heard on our side on any of these resolutions to come to the floor and be heard.

Let me share some thoughts. This is a rather awkward situation we find ourselves in because we are debating three resolutions concurrently. Frankly, one of the three I have not even seen yet, so it is very difficult to debate something you have never seen. But I do know from the past discussions the type of concerns people have, the differences between, quite frankly, the Republican side and the Democratic side. I know it is not right down party lines, but let me share some concerns I have and some thoughts I have.

We heard from several Senators who expressed their concern over our micro-managing the war from this body and from the body of the other side. Five hundred and thirty-five people cannot be Commanders in Chief. It seems as if that is what is happening. Also, I observe, and I am only speaking for myself, that this thing has become highly politicized. When the war first started,